



## Notices to Consignees.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM CAL CUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Company's S.S. *Wingway*, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the 8th instant will be subject to rent. No Fire Insurance has been effected. Consignees are requested to present all Claims for damages and/or shortages not later than the 14th instant, otherwise they will not be recognized.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, February 2, 1891. 222

## To-day's Advertisements.

## STEAM TO SHANGHAI.

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship *Harrow*, Captain W. HARRATT, will leave for the above place TO-MORROW, the 4th instant, at Noon.

E. L. WOODIN, Superintendent.

P. &amp; O. S. N. Co.'s Office, Hongkong, February 3, 1891. 169

## DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAIWANFOO.

The Co.'s Steamship *Formosa*, Captain Lewis, will be despatched for the above Ports on THURSDAY, the 5th instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LAIDLAK & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, February 3, 1891. 234

## INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

The Co.'s Steamship *Wingway*, Captain F. CHOW, will be despatched for the above Ports on FRIDAY, the 6th instant, at Noon, instead of as previously advertised.

This Steamer has a superior accommodation, specially constructed to meet the requirements of tropical climates.

For Freight or Passage, apply to JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, February 3, 1891. 223

## SHIRE LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR NAGASAKI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

The Steamship *Harrow*, Captain Lewis, will sail on the 6th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, February 3, 1891. 173

## THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE Twenty-Second Ordinary MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the Company's Office, No. 2, Queen's Road Central, on FRIDAY, the 27th February instant, at Half-past 1 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the Directors for the ending 31st December, 1890.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 14th to the 27th instant, both days inclusive.

By Order, JAS. B. COUGHTREE, Secretary.

Hongkong, February 3, 1891. 233

## Occidental &amp; Oriental Steamship Company.

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND EUROPE, VIA THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND ATLANTIC &amp; OTHER CONNECTING STEAMERS.

THE Steamship *OCEANIC* will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on THURSDAY, the 26th February 1891, at 1 p.m., connection being made at Yokohama, with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan Ports.

All Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full, and same will be received at the Company's Office until 5 p.m. the day previous to sailing.

First-class fares granted as follows:—

To San Francisco ... \$225.00

To San Francisco and return ... 393.75

To Liverpool ... 325.00

To London ... 332.00

To other European ports at proportionate rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service and the Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application.

Passengers by this Line have the option of proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific and connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern Pacific or Canadian Pacific Railways.

Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa) within one year will be allowed a discount of 10%. This allowance does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to points beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Office, addressed to the Collector of Customs, San Francisco.

For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 50A, Queen's Road Central.

C. D. HAKMAN, Agent.

Hongkong, February 3, 1891. 236

## To-day's Advertisements.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

DURING the Temporary Absence of the Underwritten, Mr. W. J. SAUNDERS will act as Secretary of the Society.

By Order of the Board, N. J. EDE, Secretary.

Hongkong, February 3, 1891. 232

## SHIRE LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP *HARROW*, FROM ANTWERP, LONDON, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., at Kowloon, whence and/or from the Wharves delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining after the 10th instant will be subject to rent at the rate of one cent per package per day.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 10th instant, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, February 3, 1891. 235

## HONGKONG CHORAL SOCIETY.

THE GONDOLIERS.

The Society will give THREE PERFORMANCES on the following dates, commencing EACH EVENING, at 9 p.m. precisely, SATURDAY, 7th February.

MONDAY, 9th February.

SATURDAY, 14th February.

Seats may be booked at LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

PRICE, \$2.00 EACH.

Tickets sold at the door of the Theatre. Dress Circle and Stalls, \$2.00 each. Back Seats, \$1.00 each.

Soldiers, Sailors and Police in uniform Half-price to the Back Seats.

N.B.—Books of the Words of the Opera may be had of Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. Price, 50 Cents.

SPECIAL TRAM-CARS will run as follows:—

Down, Up.

Saturday, 7th Feb. 8.30 (15 mins. after 8.15) of Gondoliers.

do. 14th do. 8.45 of Gondoliers.

do. 14th do. 8.45 of Gondoliers.

ROBERT LYALL, Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, February 3, 1891. 196

## Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor Owners will be Responsible for any Debt contracted by the Officers or Crew of the following Vessels, during their stay in Hongkong Harbour:—

ALTAIR, British barque, Capt. Munro.

WIELER & Co.

ANTONIO, British steamer, Captain F. Marchal.

B. P. CHERRY, American ship, Capt. C. E. Humphrey.

DOROTHY, British barque, Captain A. Crowl.

JOHN BAILEY, American barquentine, Captain F. S. Shepherd-Master.

LAUSKORSA, British barque, Capt. Jas. W. Boyd.

LUCEY, American ship, Capt. C. M. Nichols.

STERLING, American ship, Geo. W. Goodwin.

VILLAGET, American ship, Captain F. C. Bailey.

By Order, JAS. B. COUGHTREE, Secretary.

Hongkong, February 3, 1891. 233

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Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to points beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Office, addressed to the Collector of Customs, San Francisco.

For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 50A, Queen's Road Central.

C. D. HAKMAN, Agent.

Hongkong, February 3, 1891. 236

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C. D. HAKMAN, Agent.

Hongkong, February 3, 1891. 236

## Business Notices.

LAST FEW DAYS.

SEE EXPRESSES.

GREAT CLEARANCE SALE.

SEE EXPRESSES.

SPECIAL BARGAINS.

SPECIAL BARGAINS.

LAST FEW DAYS.

Hongkong Trading Co., Ltd.

Vessels Advertised as Loading.

Destination	Vessels	Agents	Date of Leaving
Bremen & Ports of Call	Bayern (s)	Norddeutscher Lloyd	Feb. 15, at 11 a.m.
London & Ports of Call	Ganges (s)	P. & O. S. N. Co.	Feb. 6, at noon.
London	Fingary (s)	Arnhold, Karberg & Co.	About February 6.
London	Imperial (s)	Messageries Maritimes	Feb. 12, at noon.
Nanki, Kobe & Yama	Kumagata Maru (s)	Geo. R. Stevens & Co.	Feb. 4, daylight.
Nanki, Kobe & Yama	Harrow (s)	Adamson, Bell & Co.	February 6.
San Francisco, v. Japan	City of Peking (s)	Pacific Mail S. S. Co.	Feb. 7, at noon.
San Francisco, v. Japan	Oceanic (s)	P. & O. S. N. Co.	Feb. 26, at 1 p.m.
San Francisco, v. Japan	Starling (s)	Russell & Co.	Feb. 4, at noon.
Shanghai, Kobe & Yama	Queen Elizabeth (s)	Adamson, Bell & Co.	February 8.
Spore, Penang & C'ta	Wingway (s)	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	Feb. 5, at noon.
Spore, Penang & C'ta	Biagio (s)	P. & O. S. N. Co.	Feb. 7, at noon.
Straits and Bombay	Gwalior (s)	Douglas Laidlak & Co.	Feb. 5, daylight.
Vancouver (B.C.), v. Seattle	Swatow (s)	Canadian Pacific S. S. Co.	Feb. 5, at noon.
Yokohama & Kobe	Pomorie (s)	Adamson, Bell & Co.	Feb. 8, daylight.

SHARE LIST.—QUOTATIONS.—FEBRUARY 3, 1891.

Stocks	No. of Shares	Value	Paid-up	Closing Quotations, Cash.
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Corp.	60,000	\$ 125	\$ 125	\$27 7/8, prem., sellers
New Issue				\$25 3/4, buyers
MAINE INDEMNITY, Ltd.	10,000	\$ 250	\$ 250	at dividend
Canton Insurance Office Co., Ltd.	24,000	\$ 83.33	\$ 83.33	25 1/4
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	1,500	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	290 nominal
North-China Insurance Co., Ltd.	5,000	\$ 200	\$ 200	5 1/2, 23, buyers
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.	30,000	\$ 100	\$ 100	2 3/4, buyers
Union Insurance Society Co., Ltd.	10,000	\$ 200	\$ 200	25 3/4
Yangtze Insurance Association, Ltd.	8,000	\$ 100	\$ 100	1 1/2, 8 1/2
CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD.	20,000	\$ 100	\$ 100	20 1/2, 80 1/2
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	6,000	\$ 250	\$ 250	50 3/4
Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 37, nominal
WATER AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.	40,000	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ 3
ROOPE				
H'kong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.	12,345	\$ 12	\$ 12	91 1/2, prem.
STEAMBOATS				
China and Manila S. S. Co., Ltd.	3,500	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$134
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$47
Indo-China S. S. Co., Ltd.	80,000	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$30, ex
Indo-China S. S. Co., Ltd.	80,000	\$ 10	\$ 10	25 1/2, dia.
Steam Launch Company, Limited.	2,000	\$ 5	\$ 5	30, buyers
China Sugar Company, Limited.	15,000	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$174
Luzon Sugar Company, Limited.	7,000	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$97
H.K. & Whampoa & Godown Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$80
LAND AND BUILDING				
Agency Company, Limited.	50,000	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$87 ex, buyers
Hongkong Land and Building Company, Limited.	6,000	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$318, sellers
Peak Building Company, Limited.	1,000	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$710
Shanghai Land Company, Limited.	12,500	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$200
Wingway Building Co., Limited.	12,500	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$21
Trust and Loan Co. of China & Co., Ltd.	99,875	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$135, 20
LD.	1,250	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$1180
TRAMWAYS				
H.K. High-Level Tramways Co., Ltd.	1,200	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$115
MINING				
Jelebu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.	4,500	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$14
Penang & Singapore Dux-Simon & Co. Mining Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$3
Salama Tin Mining Company, Limited.	115,000	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$232
Société Francaise des Charbonnages du Tonkin	8,000	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$425
The Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	15,000	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$144
Laurens Mines, Limited.	175,000	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$114
PLANTING, ETC.				
China-Borneo Company, Limited.	7,500	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$614
East Borneo Planting Co., Limited.	4,000	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$687
Labuk Planting Company, Limited.	5,000	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$533
Songei Koyah Planting Co., Ltd.	6,000	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$689
H. G. Brown & Co., Limited.	6,000	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$367, sellers

Over forty of the Mongolian princes have arrived at Peking to pay their annual respects to the Emperor. They are staying in the Mongolian hotel awaiting audience.

The opium merchants of Shanghai have decided to charge for their opium on the basis of the highest price. This increase is for the famine fund.

On the 2nd of the month the river it left the steamer *Kwang* seven days, it taking her last trip from Hankow to Yang.

Blon von Seckendorff, German Consul for Tientsin, left Peking on New Year's Eve for a journey to Shanghai, where he is German Catholic Mission which have been in trouble.

The N.O. Daily News understands that a telegram has been received by the Directors of the Shanghai Municipal Council, Mr. Waters, to the effect that the wharf and tunnel are connected, a work that has been in course of execution for some time past.

The *Siam Gazette* says:—A report is current that a cyclone raged at Champo and destroyed some 1,200 houses. The whole country is reported to be flooded. At this time of the year we would not expect anything of this sort, the more so, as we have had no rain for some time.

The river at Newland has been completely frozen. Large and small craft are travelling over it. Late in the afternoon, the weather was warmer and a slight thaw was taking place. Very few boats are passing, averaging only two to three inches each time. The money market is quiet and no failures have been reported. On the whole Newchwang will have a pleasant New Year.

A telegram was received at Johore Bahru on the 21st ult. saying that four railway surveys are being made by the Government of Johore. It is not known whether these surveys are on behalf of Sir Andrew Clarke and his fellow concessionaires, or whether they represent some other contractors or would be contractors, but it was understood from the telegram that they are intended to work in Johore to survey a railway line.

The British barque *Charley* left Nagasaki on the 8th ultimo for Japan, and has not yet reached her destination. On the night of the 15th ultimo a ship of a foreign vessel was seen some fifteen miles off the coast of the Palau Islands, by a steamer while on a voyage from Japan to Shanghai. The *Charley* may have been blown south and not been able to make this port yet.—N.O. Daily News.

Under the provisions of article 7 of the Convention between Great Britain and China, relating to Sikkim and Tibet, Mr. A. W. Paul, Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling, is appointed to be Commissioner on the part of the British Government for the purpose of articles 5, 6, and 7 of the said Convention. Mr. H. H. H. will assist Secretary Chi on this Commission, is now on a visit to Calcutta, but will return to Darjeeling shortly, thence probably going to Guntong to meet Secretary Chi.

MARRIAGE TO AN INDIAN WIFE.—An interesting case has just been heard in the Chancery Court of Ontario, the validity of a white man's marriage with an Indian woman being in question. It seems that Mr. William George Robb acquired a dusky bride named Supplietta, belonging to the Comox tribe of Indians in British Columbia, by paying forty-four dollars and a number of blankets to her father and mother, who resided in the village of Wahluks and Kachwankulach respectively. Miss Robb, of New York, one of the parties in the present suit, is the result of this marriage, which was valid according to the customs of her mother's tribe—and there have been previous decisions in this sense—while her mother's custom is in this sense, who will consent in her father's money if they can upset his marriage.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

Mrs. GILLARD, of Rickford, Yeovil, died on Dec. 23 at the very advanced age of 102. She was probably the oldest woman in England, having been born in London in the year 1789, and she lived until the 8th of next month would have attained her 100th birthday. Although, with the exception of slight deafness, she retained her faculties, she has been practically bedridden for nearly 14 years, only coming downstairs occasionally. Her husband died in 1844, and since then she has resided with her youngest daughter, Mrs. Garland, who has attained an advanced age. She has a son living who is 78 years of age. She was present in London at the Jubilee celebration of George III. in 1811, and would give very interesting reminiscences of London, the remembrance of which she related to her death.

A wedding of the "unmistakable" kind was lately celebrated in London, to which a whole army of guests were invited. The cards of invitation were in no way extraordinary, save that in one corner appeared the simple words "No Presents." Now, at first sight this appears (says *Women*) to be a most revolutionary proceeding, and no doubt the announcement was made with the best of motives, and with feelings of mingled indignation and alarm. What is a wedding without the attendant presents? In the Washington case it may be taken for granted that the bride and bridegroom were such favorites of fortune as to be indifferent to the more or less substantial marks of friendship which gladden the eyes and relieve the purse of the average young people "about to marry." What to the wealthy Washington bride is one more bracelet, one more afternoon dress, one more what to the husband an extra signet or dressing-garment? But we fear the less fortunate majority, if they echo the cry at all, will do so very faintly, trusting it may escape observation. This, of course, is only one side of the question. What have the guests to say on the matter? To speak the plain truth, these presents from the giver's point of view have gradually come to be such a burden that many people receive a tasteless wedding-card with about as much pleasure as though it were an ugly and peremptory demand for Queen's Ransom. Refuse to give, and you are not only unfriendly; give, and feel that you have been guilty of an extravagance beyond your means. The position is a very painful one, and calls for much sympathy. We are accustomed to set the example to America, and probably we shall not follow Washington's lead in this matter; but if at any time we were really hard pressed, and wanted a decent excuse for not giving a present, this case would afford a very useful precedent, provided our friends and relations on the verge of matrimony could be induced to take this hint from across the Atlantic. Then there would be no need to explain that we were short of money. We would willingly give, but in giving we should cease to be "smart."

All interested in billiards will (says the *Sportman*) be pleased to learn that the vexed question as to what constitutes the "Championship of English Billiards" will shortly be settled. J. Roberts, a well-known player, has been challenged by W. J. Paul, a leading amateur and professional, to consider the advisability of establishing the small-picket table and to settle rules for the decision of future championships.

The business of a matrimonial agent is not a bad one when business is brisk; but clients do not always act honorably towards their brokers. At the Bristol Bankruptcy Court, Archibald John Chittell, who was described as a matrimonial agent, was ordered to pay a fine of £5,000, chiefly on account of his conduct in respect to the dowry of a lady he had introduced to his clients, but which commission had been repudiated. In one instance he claimed £2,000, the dowry being £24,000, but he had been paid a sum of £1,000. He had introduced a lady of £1,000, and an unmarried solicitor only gave him £50 for introducing him to a lady possessed of £7,000. His business when in full swing, he said, was worth £15,000 a year, and the good-will had been estimated at £5,000.

A writer in the *Pall Mall Gazette* has compiled a record of the big land sales of the year. From this it appears that land is decreasing in value, except for sporting purposes; and that men who have made money in business are not ready enough to buy. Amongst those who have been disposing of their estates are Lord Carlisle, the Duke of Newcastle, the Duke of Devonshire, and the Duke of Eile. Here are some instances of depreciation in value. Twenty years ago an estate in Lancashire was valued for £30,000, and after £10,000 had been spent on it in improvements, it is now valued at £19,000. The Duke of Newcastle sold 4,044 acres for £107,000, out of an estate of 5,000 acres, which in 1840 was valued at £375,000. A manor in North Wales was bought for £12,000; now no one could be found to bid more than \$5,400.

The recent visit of Mr. Howard, the late Secretary of the British Legation at Peking, to the British Consulate at Shanghai, on the 15th ultimo, was the subject of a report in the *Standard*, which was recorded at the time, has resulted in the presentation by him to the Foreign Office of a memorial, among other things, he makes a rather startling suggestion as to the Consular and Supreme Court establishments in China. The present British Consulate at Shanghai, Mr. Howard says, is in his opinion, and Mr. Howard proposes, and it is in contemplation by the Foreign Office, that no successor shall be appointed to Mr. Hughes from the consular ranks, but that the Chief Judge of the Supreme Court at Shanghai should be appointed, while the assistant judge shall act also as consul.—N.O. Daily News.

BANK NOTES IN CHINA.—X writes to the N.O. Daily News as follows:—Do foreign Bankers in China ever examine the Chinese bank notes? I have written the notes they circulate. From time to time notes come into my hands on which have been written most insulting remarks about foreigners. Sometimes these remarks refer to the bank which has issued the note; sometimes they are simply filthy thrown at foreigners in general. I have written the notes, and I have been told that the bank which has issued the note is not to be held responsible for the remarks, but I have been told that the bank which has issued the note is not to be held responsible for the remarks, but I have been told that the bank which has issued the note is not to be held responsible for the remarks.

THE DEPOSITION OF GREEK.—Another Greek deposition is in contemplation—not this time in the Greek Consulate at Shanghai, but in a remote region where dwell the gods who preside over the education of our youth. But if the deposition is carried out it will cause hardly less of a revolution in its own line than the deposition of Mr. Parnell himself. The move in question is a proposal to depose Greek from his position as a member of the Public School Council. The proposal was to be debated at Oxford on Tuesday by the Hellenists' Conference, a gathering which is this evening, on this occasion, with real importance. At present Greek is not only the subject of instruction, but is a *quasi* *quasi* for every school which aspires to "public school" rank—that is, which prepares boys for the Universities; because the Universities insist that no one shall enter their portals who has not attained to some Greek standard of education. The headmaster of Harrow, brings forward a resolution, "That it would be a gain to education if Greek were not a compulsory subject in the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge," is a sort of *scholastic* Home Rule that is proposed.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

ARMED INDIA.—Our contemporary the *Amherst* has an excellent review of the present position of the armaments of India, pointing out what great progress has lately been made in the general equipment of all branches of our land forces. First, the foremost of our land forces, the British Infantry will all be armed with a weapon which will take the same cartridge, as the British Infantry will be armed with the Magazine rifle, and the Native Infantry with the Martini rifle, however, that the most conspicuous improvements will appear. First of all, every horse and field battery in India will soon be armed with breech-loading guns. As at present arranged, they will consist exclusively of 12-pounders mounted on steel carriages. With reference to coast defences the *Pioneer* says:—"In our coast batteries the march of progress is becoming still more apparent. In the place of the present conspicuous muzzle-loading guns on barbette emplacements, 10-inch and 6-inch breechloaders will henceforth be going to sea soon, but that is just what they will not be mounted on disappearing carriages, in sunken emplacements, from which they will pop up for a moment to fire, like rabbits from a burrow, and sink back the moment their work is done, leaving absolutely nothing for the enemy to aim at. India is not a land of forts, but a land of ships, and ships, and will have, besides, a range double that which they at present possess. In the matter of harbor defences, other than armaments, the progress is equally marked. The principal ports are already protected by submarine mines, while torpedo boats abound: the turret ships are to be replaced as soon as possible with 10-inch breechloaders, and torpedo catchers are on the way out. We must forget that the frontier railway development of the last ten years will enable us to mass troops on our only vulnerable frontier with a speed that was not dreamt of in the time of the Afghan War, and that the arrangements for keeping an army in the field fully supplied with all it requires have been enormously improved.

A supply of Dr. Koch's lymph was expected to arrive in Shanghai by the last French mail on Monday.

From a neatly got-up card issued by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank we (Hypo News) note that there are no fewer than 15 holidays to be observed in Japan in the ensuing year. This contrasts refreshingly with the three fast days of St. Lubbuck granted to the Jaded Londoner. Japan is fortunate in being able so frequently to adjust business with the delectable and its people in being light-headed enough to so frequently relinquish work for pleasure.

Mr. Alfred Holt notifies to those exporters of goods from the Clyde, Liverpool, and Birkenhead, to the Straits Settlements, China, and Japan, who from the 1st January to the 30th June, 1891, confine their shipments to steamers belonging to the Ocean Steamship Co., or to steamers loaded by them, that he will allow a rebate of five per cent. on the freight commission. If the support is continued to 31st December, 1891, a further five per cent. will be given and 10 per cent. on freight from June 30th to 31st December, 1891. Shipments made by the "P. & O.," "M.," "Glen," "Castle," "Shire," and "Ben" Lines will not invalidate claims.

The influenza has now completed its circuit of the world. The full statistics furnished by the Japanese Sanitary Association have not yet reached us, but by the accounts which day after day appear in the papers we can form a fairly accurate idea of the wide prevalence of the disease. In Japan it has in a good many cases necessitated the breaking up of schools. It has been the cause of a great deal of irregularity in the delivery of letters and the circulation of newspapers, and it is reported that the police have found great difficulty in fulfilling their duties owing to the number of men laid up. The malady has spared no class: from the Emperor in his palace to the poor match-seller by the roadside. In severe cases patients have been in bed two weeks. It has developed other diseases and caused complications which have in some cases proved fatal. The distress among the poor has on its account been very great, in some houses three out of four members being unable to work.

#### THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report of this Company for presentation to shareholders at the fourth ordinary annual meeting to be held at the Chamber of Commerce Room, City Hall, on Saturday next at noon. (The accounts will appear to-morrow):—  
The Directors have now to submit to Shareholders their Report with a statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1890.  
Accounts.—The revenue derived from Wharves, Landings &c., amounted in 1890 to \$290,010.39 against \$206,616.77 in 1889 being an increase of \$13,403.53.  
The net profits after paying expenses and all charges amount to ... \$ 79,085.92  
From which have to be deducted:—  
Dividend ... \$ 36,000.00  
Direct expenses ... 6,044.00  
Auditors' fees ... 500.00  
41,500.00  
Leaving available ... \$ 37,585.92  
The Directors propose to pay a dividend of \$1.75 per share which, together with the \$1.75 paid in July, makes \$3.50 for the year and to carry forward the balance of \$2,585.92 to next account.

Profit and Loss has been debited with \$4,075.37, being the amount of disputed and uncollectible debts for 1887 and 1888, and the interest on money borrowed to return to Shareholders in consequence of the Reduction of Capital has also been passed to this account. But for the unavoidable delay in carrying out the work of Reclamation, a large portion of the profits would have now been paid off, and the Directors consider the profits derived from the Reclamation should be charged with the interest incurred through the delay. The Account therefore stands with a credit balance of \$345,885.99, a large portion of which it is expected will be received during the present year.

The Directors are pleased to state that, after considerable difficulty, they have succeeded in concentrating the whole of the Ocean-going traffic at Kowloon, reserving West Point for Coasting vessels only, and this will result in further concentration of economy of working during the current year.

Three new coal godowns are in course of completion at Kowloon and it will shortly become necessary to enlarge the accommodation for cargo.

*Kowloon Godown.*—This property charged on in May last, and the Company's management of the business having ceased, the revenue derived from commission will henceforth disappear from the Accounts.

*West Point Property.*—The Company's tenancy of this property expired on 30th June, 1890, and a portion of the property was again leased for another year. It is not proposed to continue them after 30th June, 1891.

*Committee of Investigation.*—The Special Committee appointed by the Shareholders on the 5th August, 1890, inquiring into the working of the Company's business went very thoroughly into every detail and their respective Reports can be seen on application to the Secretary.

*Directors.*—Messrs H. Hopkiss and D.R. Sassoon retire in rotation according to the Articles of Association, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.  
The Hon. A. P. McEwen and Mr. B. Layton resigned, and their places have not yet been filled.  
*Auditors.*—Mr. G. S. Coxon having resigned, the Directors appointed Mr. F. Henderson to audit the accounts in conjunction with Mr. T. L. Rose, and they recommend these gentlemen for re-election.  
J. J. Kewick, Chairman.  
Hongkong, 2nd February, 1891.

#### NATIVE BANK FAILURES IN SHANGHAI.

A great deal of commotion was occasioned amongst Chinese business men in Shanghai on the 29th ult., says the *Shanghai Mercury*, when it became known that the "Chen Yuen," one of the oldest and most trusted native banks, had put up its shutters and suspended payment to the extent of something like £1,400,000. The cause of its failure is said to have originated in the speculative operations of the "Chen Yuen" in the Shanghai market, a practice which was indulged in last year to an unusual extent. The "Chen Yuen" Bank was started in Shanghai City about 20 years ago, and did a very extensive business. The present manager bore a high reputation for integrity, and the shareholders repudiated much confidence in his honesty and sagacity. Some

three years ago the owners of the bank started a branch in the English Settlement and the manager's son was put in charge of the new business, thought his father exercised a general supervision over it. The son, unfortunately, proved restless and wild, and becoming acquainted with a number of native sharps, fell into habits of speculation. Amongst his friends was an individual, whose name we have forgotten, but who has several times been deported for roguery, and this gentleman and his companions recently induced the young man to go in for a big gamble in dollars in Ningpo to the extent of £1,250,000 margin on a rise in the price of Moricane. The result of this venture was that the young man lost nearly £1,500,000 in a very short time. Part of the first loss in another Chinese bank which the Government closed for certain irregularities. The news of the heavy loss of the "Chen Yuen" Bank soon reached the ears of people outside, and a "run" took place, with the result that the branch of the bank in the Settlement suspended payment on the 29th ult., and its manager has "bolted" to parts unknown. We are informed that Foreigners are interested to the extent of over a lakh of taels. The father of this young man, fearing the consequences of his son's act has also disappeared, though we are told that the failure will not affect the bank in the City very much, and the old man, its manager, is worth a great deal of money personally, and it is probable that some kind of arrangement will be devised. By the father of the "Chen Yuen" two or three other smaller native banks are involved and suspended payment next day.

In a subsequent issue, our contemporary says:—We hear that the sums due to certain foreign banks by the "Chen Yuen" Native bank, which failed a couple of days ago, have been secured by another well-known Chinese bank, the "Kung-tai." When the Chinese creditors heard of this arrangement they went to the "Kung-tai" in a body and wanted their claims against the bankrupt concern similarly guaranteed. But the "Kung-tai" people did not go it this way and there was consequently quite a hostile demonstration outside their premises till the police dispersed the crowd.

#### TELEGRAMS BY THE AUSTRALIAN MAIL.

POSTAL CONGRESS AT VIENNA.  
London, Jan. 3.—The Austrian Government has requested the Australian Colonies and Fiji to appoint delegates to a Postal Congress to be held at Vienna May 20.

London, Jan. 3.—Germany is desirous of obtaining an exchange of direct mails and post cards by the British mail steamers with Australia, the arrangement to commence immediately.  
Mr. Ralston, the British Postmaster-General, holds that it would be better to arrange the matter after the Congress at Vienna. He also thinks that the question of the revision of the transit rates through Italy and France might with advantage be left over until after the Congress.

London, Jan. 4.—A disastrous explosion has taken place at the Wilzeck Colliery in Silesia.  
Fifteen miners have been taken out dead, and 30 others are still entombed in the mine.

THE UNITED STATES CENSUS.  
London, January 5.—The census returns show that the birthrate throughout the United States has considerably decreased, there being a difference in this respect of two millions between the figures for the period ending 1890 and those for the previous decade.

THE BRITISH NAVAL AND MILITARY CONTROL.  
London, Jan. 6.—The British Government is making arrangements by which the Admiralty will in future have the right to charter the cable ships for the fleet, the War Office retaining only the control of the land service.

GERMANY IN EAST AFRICA.  
London, Jan. 7.—It is officially announced in Berlin that the report of Dorensaiah has been found to be true, and the German Government has decided to send a mission to East Africa.

THE ANTO-AUSTRALIAN CABLE SERVICE.  
London, Jan. 7.—The Anglo-Australian Cable Company announces that it is about to lay a new cable in the Red Sea, a second cable from Aden to Bombay, and a third between Madras and Penang, in order to secure an efficient service.

The directors of the company are preparing to consider the new tariff of the Anglo-Australian cable, and are instructed to sign the agreement on behalf of the colonies.

REVIVAL OF THE ANARCHIST MOVEMENT.  
London, Jan. 7.—An Anarchist Congress is to be held at Tigliole, in Northern Italy, to urge the initiation of a general anarchist agitation on May 1 next.

COAL SHIPMENTS FREIGHTS.  
London, Jan. 7.—The brokers have refused to accede to the demand of the shipowners that the freight committee should decide the amount as well as the sailing freights.

THE TREATMENT OF REFRACTORY ORES.  
London, Jan. 8.—It is reported that the gold ore reduction process by which the Mount Torrens refractory ores have been treated, costs 7s 6d per ton, obtaining 10z of gold and 2oz of silver, whereas the ordinary process yields only 10z of gold.

THE TREATY KINGDOM.  
London, Jan. 7.—The Board of Trade returns for the past year indicate that the imports into Great Britain for the year 1890 were £67,000,000 below those of the preceding year. On the other hand, the exports from the United Kingdom for the year 1890 showed an increase in value of £14,600,000 as compared with those of 1889.

THE REVENUE OF FRANCE.  
London, Jan. 7.—The revenue of France for the past year shows a surplus over expenditure of 60 million francs (approximately £2,400,000).

COAL FOR THE ROYAL NAVY.  
London, Jan. 7.—The Lords of the Admiralty propose to store 200,000 tons of coal in the vicinity of Sydney harbour, unless the Government provides land and builds reasonable coal wharves.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.  
London, Jan. 7.—The directors of the English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered Bank propose a dividend of 10 per cent., and carry forward £12,000 to the new account.

The National Bank of New Zealand declares a dividend of 5 per cent.  
NEW STEAMERS FOR THE P. & O. COMPANY.  
London, Jan. 8.—The Peninsular and Oriental S. N. Company is building on the Clyde two steamers to replace the company's recent losses by wreck.

AN IMPERIAL CONGRESS.  
London, Jan. 8.—The London Chamber of Commerce will hold an Imperial Commercial Congress in London either during the present year or in 1892.

THE MINERS AND THE RAILWAY SYSTEM.  
London, Jan. 9.—The miners' federation at Birmingham is strongly in favour of the eight-hour system being placed on the Statute Book.

#### THE CURE FOR CONSUMPTION.—PROFESSOR VIRECHOW'S OPINION.

London, Jan. 9.—Professor Virechow, the eminent German surgeon, is so pleased as to Dr. Koch for the cure of consumption. He states that 21 cases of tubercular disease treated by Dr. Koch's method have ended fatally. Professor Virechow considers that many more experiments will be necessary before the method of treatment can be regarded as thoroughly effective.

London, January 10.—A French commission appointed to investigate Koch's consumption cure reported that the wisest and ablest physicians would do better to await further developments.

THE ELECTRIC TRAM.  
London, Jan. 3.—The Fifth Avenue Theatre and Harcourt Theatre, New York, have been completely gutted by fire. The first occurred at midnight on Friday. The total damage is estimated at \$500,000 dollars.

London, Jan. 6.—It is announced that the electric line which the Fifth Avenue Theatre and Harcourt Theatre were destroyed, and the Streetcar House was injured, originated in a defective electric light wire.

THE DISTRESS IN IRELAND.  
London, Jan. 5.—Two thousand labourers at a town named Swinford, in county Mayo, Ireland, are demanding the establishment of relief work in the construction of a railway, whereas they are threatened to fight the present workers.

London, Jan. 7.—Mr. Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland, has expressed his thanks for the generous response to the appeal for help on behalf of the congested districts in Ireland.  
London, Jan. 13.—The relief fund initiated by Mr. Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland, for the sufferers in the potato-blighted districts, amounts to £18,000.

ENGLAND AND PORTUGAL.  
London, January 3.—The Portuguese press asserts that a definite treaty with Great Britain in regard to South-east Africa on the point of being concluded.  
London, Jan. 5.—It is reported that the Portuguese intend to vigorously boycott the British gunboats on the Zambezi in South-East Africa.

SEVERE WINTER IN EUROPE.  
London, Jan. 7.—As the result of the unusual severity of the present winter season, the mortality in London is 600 above the weekly average.

London, January 10.—During the present winter in England, 47 days of continuous frost have been experienced. The weather is the severest that has been known during the present century. A number of people have been frozen to death.

London, Jan. 22.—In England and on the Continent severe snow-storms and heavy frosts have taken place. In many parts the mails have been delayed in consequence of the frozen state of the rivers. In France about 30,000 persons were thrown out of work owing to the storms.

#### THE CANADIAN-PACIFIC MAIL AND CABLE.

London, Jan. 5.—The syndicate of which the Marquis of Hartington is chairman, having in view the arrangement of a Canadian-Australian mail service, accepts the £10,000 subsidy from Queensland, and hopes that Victoria will see her way clear to grant a subsidy of £50,000, in regard to the Imperial character of the service.

The syndicate will establish a branch service between Honolulu and San Francisco.

London, Jan. 5.—The authorities in Honolulu are parleying with Canada, with the view of securing an improvement in the postal relations between the two countries.

London, Jan. 5.—The promoters of the projected Pacific cable, from Vancouver to Australia, are considering whether the cable should touch at Honolulu.

THE RAILWAY STRIKE IN SCOTLAND.  
London, Jan. 3.—Although the railway companies assert that the strike is nearly over, a Canadian Railway Company is still 1000 men short of its usual complement.

London, Jan. 6.—The eviction of the railway strikers at Mosherwell in Lanarkshire, on the Caledonian line, from the premises belonging to the company, led to a riotous scene.

The military were called out to assist the police in quelling the outbreak. The police charged the mob, and the military fired blank cartridge with the object of dispersing the crowds.

The strikers committed various excesses, and a Glasgow shopkeeper was attacked and injured. A serious disturbance took place at Catbridge, where a number of strikers stormed the dormitory occupied by the workers who had taken the strikers' places. The police had to intervene, and it was not till six of the rioters had been arrested and the police had freely used their batons in the crowd that order was restored.

Mr. John Burns, who has interested himself in the cause of the Scottish strikers, complains that he cannot induce the great English unions to contribute towards the support of the Scottish railway labourers who have come out. So far, only the seamen and firemen have contributed to the Northern strike fund.

London, Jan. 7.—An attempt has been made by the strikers to wreck a train on the North British line by placing a sleeper across the rails. The attempt, however, was unsuccessful.

London, Jan. 7.—At the instance of Mr. John Burns, as an evidence of their sympathy with the Scottish railway men now out on strike, 3000 Dundee dockers have decided to abandon work.

London, Jan. 7.—The railway labourers have decided to surrender their arms, and to suffer severely through the strike, and the losses of these sections are reported to be greater than those of the companies. The want of coal is causing the stoppage of many works.

London, Jan. 7.—The Scottish railway companies have refused to grant the demands of the men for a reduction of the hours of labour to 10 hours per day.

The companies have now called upon the strikers to surrender unconditionally.

The men on strike are appealing to all trades organisations to support them.

London, Jan. 2.—The excitement in connection with the Scotch railway strike has become easier. Some of the men are returning to work, but the North Western labourers are urging the strikers to persist, and also threaten to strike unless the principle of ten hours is extended to all the railways.

THE HOME RULE PARTY.  
At the request of Mr. Harrington, Mr. T. Healy, M.P., will to-morrow have an interview with Mr. Parnell relative to the disruption in the Irish Nationalist party. Mr. Healy has already visited Mr. William O'Brien.

London, Jan. 7.—The conference among the prominent members of the Irish Home Rule party has terminated, and it is officially considered that a peaceable settlement will be effected.

It is reported that Mr. Parnell is willing to retire from the leadership, provided that Mr. Justin M. McCarthy resigns and the whole party proceeds to select its new leader.

Mr. Arnold Morley, Gladstonian Liberal whip, has, it is stated, warned Mr. W. O'Brien that Mr. Gladstone insists upon Mr. Parnell's total withdrawal from public life.

Mr. John Dillon approves of Mr. O'Brien assuming temporary charge of the Irish Parliamentary party in replacing Mr. Parnell.

Jan. 8.—It is reported that Mr. O'Brien has agreed to his influence to support Mr. Justin M. McCarthy from the leadership of the Irish party, which he is elected by the action which is coded from the Parnellites, and to secure his own or Mr. John Dillon's election, Mr. Parnell retiring from active service until a general election.

Mr. Parnell is to transfer to Mr. O'Brien from the funds of the League from £10,000 to £15,000 for the Tipperary tenants.

London, Jan. 9.—Mr. Justin M. McCarthy and Mr. Thomas Sexton are proceeding to London to confer with Mr. William O'Brien relative to the leadership of the Irish party.

January 13.—Dillon is about to sail from America to Paris. He will probably act as Irish leader while O'Brien serves his term of imprisonment. It is believed that McCarthy is anxious to retire. Parnell states he was determined to fight for the leadership, but he is satisfied with the recent conference with O'Brien.

Gladstone announces that he will pursue the same Irish policy as heretofore.

Parnell delivered a long speech on the Home Rule question at Limerick on Sunday.

BRITISH COMMERCIAL TREATIES.  
London, January 3.—The Committee of the Board of Trade will examine the general situation on January 28, regarding the desire of the respective Governments to participate in the benefits to be derived from a renewal of certain commercial treaties between England and other countries, which expire next year.

THE NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERIES.  
London, January 3.—There is great discontent in Newfoundland over the renewal of the *modus vivendi* in relation to the fisheries dispute. Many threats are made to overthrow British rule in Newfoundland.

Later.—The discontent in Newfoundland is reported to be exaggerated, and is said to have been fomented by American agents.

SPAIN AND THE CANARIAN ISLANDS.  
London, Jan. 6.—The natives of the Canarian Islands have attacked the Spanish expeditionary force despatched to Ponape.

The Spanish troops were compelled to disperse the attacking party with fatalities, the natives suffering heavy losses.

300 persons have been killed by the natives of Ouen, Caroline Isles, during the recent revolt against the Spanish authority.

GENERAL BOOTH'S COLONISATION SCHEME.  
London, Jan. 6.—General Booth declares that he has been offered a concession of land for the establishment of overseas settlements in connection with his colonisation scheme.

GENERAL BOOTH ON TOUR IN EUROPE.  
London, January 8.—General Booth has started on a tour through Europe for the purpose of promoting his colonisation scheme.

London, Jan. 8.—The *St. James's Gazette* of this evening publishes the text of General Booth's trust deed in connection with the Salvation Army scheme, and declares that the document is worthless to protect the subscribers.

London, Jan. 22.—General Booth, the Salvation Army, intends visiting Australia shortly in company with several mechanics whom he will establish in the colonies. His fund for the relief of the English distressed poor now amounts to over £100,000.

THE INDIAN ARMY IN AMERICA.  
London, Jan. 3.—News has reached New York to the effect that the official Indian Regiment, of the United States Army, which was despatched to Nebraska to suppress the Indian rising, narrowly escaped a serious defeat. When passing through a valley at Clay Creek they were suddenly surrounded by a greatly superior force of Sioux

